

W. R. Ball Sept 1833

Most Respected Friends

you may be surprised  
in receiving a communication so soon  
following the one conveyed by Mr. Phipps.  
But the object of writing, may well appear  
in what follows.

I would wish to observe however on the first  
page bearing antipathy in relation  
to Sister Olga has been made the subject.  
I find her to be all & more than  
friends had expressed, imagine it worthy the  
best of comparisons. I tremble now I think  
of the day when the union will take place  
by your consent & the power of a kind that  
I think what we now presume to undertake.  
I find I am not worthy to be named in your  
prayers. I feel that, Lord, I have sinned with  
her hand & receive etc for what she shall not  
find in her worthy. I am to be equated  
But should the pledge which she has implicitly  
given be released & she become united in  
that sacred solemn obligation of the marriage  
covenant. Will you not, I may be to her  
all that an affectionate faithful companion  
should be & that her beloved & generous society  
may never fail to assist that those unkind  
parental words which have long haunted her  
beloved one to the burning charge of love  
at the expense of her & gods for a season  
have been as it were, laid that she may  
become united in that of justice which  
more sacred & inviolable. You may wish  
for the glory of the cause, but we  
become every cord's support & in the  
year of thousands of our fellow citizens  
are our own strangers to the domestic rep-  
ublic & spiritual things which we will do

humbly yours,

The object of our writing, was to inquire should you consent to the contemplated union - are you willing it should take place here by full and open returning to Trenton?

I feel it to be a delicate question & one requiring more perhaps than you can feel willing to grant & probably more than we can in justice ask. This anniversary should be celebrated in a father's house. When we left you we both thought it not best to marry here. We now feel different for several reasons. We had become convinced that it will not at all retard our studies. We can be pleasantly situated at Brunswick & can pursue my studies in connection with the Seminary & father in connection with a ladies school or should she think best to go to study to me as she now does during his vacation. I had not time to do this at anything like a proper degree of preparation & satisfaction.

We believe it will remove every impediment & superior feelings & place us in a situation to enjoy ourselves most agreeably. There is still a prospect of some hundred dollars (the prospect at Brunswick was not so favorable). It need not prolong her absence from home & single work. I still think it best to return to the East & waiting period as soon as she is able to return. Such is a year from this fall. I shall probably receive studies & amounts on a year at Brunswick during which time she would remain at home should you wish a visit so long. We should both be most happy to remain with you to see the celebration take place at your house but it would be almost impossible to visit Trenton & then return to Brunswick this fall to have the terms convenient, & besides such a journey would be attended with great expense.

We therefore humbly request you to take into consideration existing circumstances & if you do request the favour, take all be expedited by

Yours affectionately  
 Wm. H. Fielding

I trust you would not be so ready to grant the  
request of speaking to me were it though you have had but  
a slight personal acquaintance with me - I am happy to inform  
you that I have found in you a kind and affectionate friend, and  
in your society I should consider it a high privilege to spend the  
days of my earthly pilgrimage.  
I shall expect that your affectionate words in view of what we  
anticipate by your visit will be attended with many anxious thoughts  
concerning my health. I presume you do not question the report  
which induced me to send away from your good intention and  
purpose to accompany a stranger, to a land of strangers. If I am  
not deceived respecting the matter which led me to take this step  
I am to seek the qualification which we require in order to receive pay and  
for assisting in the conduct of my father's school. I have no doubt  
that if I am enabled by night which is the undertaking that I shall  
be enabled by the blessing of God to attend in some measure to the  
work I am now doing. I have it to be consecrated for the praise and  
glory of God, my life which has been made the more shall be devoted to  
the same. I trust that your health will respond to the same but  
I have had a great deal of trouble in my eyes and with the feet  
and you know - but whatever your feelings may be concerning what we  
have now been proposed I hope you will be frank in expressing them  
Yours ever true friend  
Elizabeth

Please write immediately that we may  
know what answer to take. The time is  
running out.

Perhaps you may have seen that the school has  
been discontinued & other colleges in the South part  
of the nation it has been entirely left barren  
& left unproductive - other schools.

The health of both of you is good & comfort is good  
I wish you to state the reasons that have led to the  
change in the business of the school & whether it is  
impossible to continue the school in the same place  
or to remove it to some other place. If the cause of the change is  
from the health of the school I will never be able to

into your institution. However we hope several  
measures are now taking by the Trustees to put  
it to its use, with the hope that some have been shown  
but not to be a friend to education.

The cause of Christ languishes in this region.

The season has been very dry. Good crops of grain  
come in well, but spring crops are very much  
injured.

We have forgot to observe that on a visit to one of our  
neighbours, by the name of Holloway it was found that he  
is a member of the Baptist Church. This is rather a  
goodly number of converts.  
Yours respectfully H. H. H.

Ms. Am. Hist.  
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Crawford Co  
N. Y.